

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAR ES 03995 061247Z

42

ACTION AF-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 AID-05 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-05 NSAE-00 PA-01 RSC-01 USIA-06 PRS-01

SP-02 L-02 SS-15 DOTE-00 EA-06 IGA-01 ACDA-05 STR-01

CIEP-01 OMB-01 /080 W

----- 105556

R 060430Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6986

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

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E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS : PFOR, ECIN, ELTN, KE, TZ, ZA

SUBJECT : KENYA-TANZANIA TRUCK DISPUTE

REF: NAIROBI 10071

1. SUMMARY. TANZANIAN RESTRICTIONS ON HEAVY KENYAN TRUCKS, WHICH CAUSED GOOD NEIGHBOR MEETING TO BREAK UP IN DISAGREEMENT, NOTE YET RESOLVED, WHILE TANZANIAN PRESS VIGOROUSLY DEFENDS TANGOV POSITION. RECONCILIATION OF TANZANIAN ROAD CONDITIONS AND KENYAN-ZAMBIAN TRANSPORTATION PROBLEMS LIKELY PROVE DIFFICULT, BUT NEW DISCUSSIONS ARE UNDER WAY. END SUMMARY.

2. AS REPORTED REFTTEL, GOOD NEIGHBOR MEETING BETWEEN KENYA AND TANZANIA AT MOSHI NOVEMBER 29 - DECEMBER 1 BROKE UP IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 DAR ES 03995 061247Z

DISAGREEMENT DESPITE APPEAL BY DELEGATIONS TO TANZANIAN

PRIME MINISTER KAWAWA AT SHINYANGA. THE MAIN ISSUE WAS THE TANZANIAN DECREE, WHICH THEORETICALLY CAME INTO EFFECT DECEMBER 1, BARRING THE USE OF CERTAIN NORTHERN TANZANIAN HIGHWAYS TO VEHICLES OF OVER 12 AND NE HALF TONS (INCLUDING LOAD) (NOTE: EARLIER PRESS REPORTS SAID 10 TONS). HIGHWAYS IN QUESTION (NAMANGA-ARUSHA; MOSHI-KOROGWE-SEGERE; HOROHORO-LUNGALUNGA-TANGA; AND SEGERE-CHALINZE) ARE MAIN ACCESS ROUTES FROM KENYA TO TANZANIA. TANZANIANS CLAIM THAT CLOSING THESE ROADS TO HEAVY VEHICLES ESSENTIAL TO KEEP THEM FROM DISINTEGRATING FURTHER (A POINT CONFIRMED BY AMERICAN HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION FIRM WHICH JUST STARTED RESURFACING SEGMENT OF ROAD NORTH OF CHALINZE). TANGOV RECENTLY REPAIRED TANGA-KOROGWE ROAD AND ATTRIBUTES MUCH OF WEAR AND TEAR TO KENYAN TRAFFIC. PRINCIPAL SECRETARY, FINANCE (BYABATO), TOLD EMBOFF THIS WEEK THAT KENYANS TOLD MANY MONTHS AGO THAT TANZANIA COULD NOT LET ROADS DETERIORATE BECAUSE OF KENYAN TRAFFIC. ONLY ALTERNATIVE TO EMBARGO ON HEAVY TRAFFIC, HE SAID, WAS TO COMPLETELY REBUILD ROAD AND TANZANIA CANNOT JUSTIFY EXPENDITURE OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE FOR THAT PURPOSE.

3. KENYANS AT MOSHI MEETING CLAIMED USE OF ROADS BY HEAVY TRUCKS ESSENTIAL FOR KENYAN TRADE WITH ZAMBIA, ALMOST ALL OF WHICH GOES BY ROAD. JOHN H. GITAU, GENERAL MANAGER OF THE KENYAN NATIONAL TRANSPORT COMPANY (KENATCO), WAS SUMMONED FROM NAIROBI TO EXPLAIN ECONOMIC IMPACT OF THE RESTRICTIONS, WHICH HE TOLD CONFERENCE WOULD COST KENYA NEARLY 150 MILLION SHILLINGS (US\$21 MILLION) PER YEAR, AND SAID THAT 22,000 TONS OF CHEMICAL FERTILIZER AND 3,000 TONS OF OTHER MERCHANDISE, ALREADY LANDED IN MOMBASA, NOT TO MENTION ANOTHER 13,000 TONS OF FERTILIZER (SULFUR) EXPECTED WITHIN A WEEK, WOULD BE BLOCKED BY RESTRICTIONS. AS A RESULT OF THE RESTRICTIONS, A MEETING IS SCHEDULED HERE DECEMBER 6 BETWEEN ZAMBIAN, TANZANIAN, AND KENYAN MINISTERS OF TRANSPORT TO DISCUSS WAYS OF MOVING ZAMBIAN-BOUND CARGO NOW IN MOMBASA. DESPITE RESTRICTIONS, TRUCKS NOW EN ROUTE HAVE APPARENTLY NOT BEEN INTERFERED WITH.

4. MEANWHILE, TANZANIAN MINISTRY OF WORKS HAS ANNOUNCED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 DAR ES 03995 061247Z

THAT REPAIR PROJECT HAS BEEN UNDER WAY FOR SOME TIME ON THE CHALINZE-SEGERE-NAMANGA ROAD, WHICH WILL COST 20 MILLION SHILLINGS (US\$ 3MILLION) AND LAST A YEAR. MINISTRY SPOKESMAN SAID ROAD HAD BEEN DAMAGED BY VEHICLES EXCEEDING THE 18.5 TON LIMIT HE SAID ROAD COULD STAND, BUT THAT IF TRANSPORTERS ABIDED BY NEW REGULATIONS ROAD WOULD SURVIVE. HE NOTED THAT WEIGHING STATIONS WERE BEING ESTABLISHED AT SEGERE, TANGA, AND NAMANGA TO ENFORCE WEIGHT LIMITS (ANOTHER STORY

SAYS 10 NEW WEIGHING STATIONS HAVE BEEN ORDERED TO SUPPLEMENT THE FOUR NOW IN EXISTENCE).

5. DEPARTURE OF KENYAN DELEGATION WAS FOLLOWED BY SARCASTIC EDITORIAL IN OFFICIAL TANZANIAN ENGLISH-LANGUAGE DAILY NEWS DECEMBER 3, "SETTING RECORD STRAIGHT" ON "RECENT PROVOCATIONS FROM THE FOREIGN-OWNED CAPITALIST PRESS IN KENYA." EDITORIAL DEFENSIVELY REVIEWED TANZANIAN POSITION ON ISSUES RAISED BY KENYAN FONMIN (E.G., TANZANIA MUST PROTECT ITS ROADS; ALLOWING KENYANS TO LEAVE TANZANIA RATHER THAN JOIN "UJUMAA" PROVES TANZANIA NOT TRYING TO FORCE ANYTHING ON THEM; DAILY NEWS HAS DEFENDED KENYA'S GOOD NAME IN PAST; TANZANIA HASN'T INTERFERED WITH KENYA TERRITORIAL WATERS), CONCLUDING THAT TWO GOVERNMENTS ARE LOOKING FOR MUTUALLY SATISFACTORY SOLUTIONS TO PROBLEMS AND THAT GOOD RELATIONS BETWEEN TWO NATIONS WOULD CONTINUE DESPITE "NOISES THE FAINTHEART LACKEYS OF THOSE WHO HAVE PLUNDERED OUR CONTINENT FOR CENTURIES ARE MAKING."

6. COMMENT: BASIC PROBLEMS (TANZANIANS NEED TO MAINTAIN ROADS AND KENYAN TRANSPORTERS' NEED TO USE THEM) ARE REAL AND CANNOT BE SOLVED BY RHETORIC ALONE, BUT FOR THE MOMENT BOTH SIDES SEEM TO HAVE THEIR BACKS UP. IF RESTRICTIONS DO PERSIST, IT SEEMS LIKELY THAT PORTION OF INCOMING ZAMBIAN CARGO WILL BE TRANSSHIPPED TO DAR ES SALAAM WHICH COULD ADD TO PORT CONGESTION HERE. WHETHER SWITCH TO SMALLER TRUCKS AND/OR KENYAN CONTRIBUTION TO TANZANIAN ROAD MAINTENANCE WILL BE FORTHCOMING REMAINS TO BE SEEN. ZAMBIA, WHICH HAD NOT BEEN HEARD FROM, IS EVIDENTLY NOW GOING TO MAKE DISCUSSIONS TRIPARTITE; ZAMBIAN OVERSEAS IMPORTS AND EXPORTS ARE ONES PRIMARILY AFFECTED, OF COURSE, BY RESTRICTIONS.  
CARTER

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## Message Attributes

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